

Code of Virginia

36-99.9:1. Standards for fire suppression systems in hospitals.

The Board of Housing and Community Development shall promulgate regulations, to be effective by October 1, 1995, in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.), establishing standards for automatic sprinkler systems in hospitals, regardless of when such facilities were constructed. In the development of these standards, the Board shall seek input from relevant state and local agencies as well as affected institutions.

For the purposes of this section and § 32.1-126.3, "automatic sprinkler system" means a device for suppressing fire in patient rooms and other areas of the hospital customarily used for patient care.

(1995, c. 631.)

Proposed Legislation – Add a new section following the above section

36-99.9:2. Standards for fire suppression systems in high rise buildings

The Board of Housing and Community Development shall promulgate regulations, to be effective by October 1, 2007, in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.), establishing standards for automatic sprinkler systems in high rise buildings having occupied floors located more than 75 feet above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access, regardless of when such facilities were constructed in jurisdictions with a population exceeding 50,000. Such buildings shall be equipped with automatic sprinkler systems by September 1, 2016, regardless of when such buildings were constructed.

For the purposes of this section and § 32.1-126.3, "automatic sprinkler system" means a device for suppressing fire

Benefits

- 1. Eliminates a hazardous condition by making water available for fire fighting**
- 2. Saves lives**
- 3. Helps business by reducing “interruption time” and improves marketability of buildings**
- 4. Reduces property damage and saves money**